

HAUTE DENTELLE

Cité de la dentelle
et de la mode, Calais

9 June 2018–
6 January 2019

After the success of the exhibitions
Hubert de Givenchy, Cristóbal Balenciaga,
Anne Valérie Hash and Iris van Herpen,
the Museum of Lace and Fashion in Calais,
dedicated to hand-made and mechanical
lace, presents the “Haute Dentelle” (Designer
Lace) exhibition.

Candidate for the Exhibition
of National Interest label

Haute couture and lace

“Haute Dentelle” offers a unique insight into the contemporary uses by fashion designers of lace woven on Leavers looms. Implicitly, exhibition curator Sylvie Marot weaves a unique dialogue between lace houses and fashion houses, revealing behind these exchanges powerful creative propositions.

A material of great creative potential

First inspired by and then liberated from hand-made lace, mechanical laces have been marrying tradition with innovation for 200 years. Synonymous with delicacy, the apparent fragility of the lace is an illusion: its woven texture makes it unravelable. A textile of high technicity, the subject of never-ending design research among lace-makers, lace has never been so multi-faceted. In infinite shades, textures, finishing techniques and embroideries, it may be transparent or opaque, with floral or abstract patterns, light or three-dimensional... to the point of becoming magnificently unrecognizable.

Fashion houses VS lace houses

Presenting more than sixty dresses from the latest haute couture and designer prêt-à-porter shows, the exhibition reveals lace to be a subject for reflection for fashion houses. Each garment marks the meeting point between the best of hand techniques and the best of machine techniques, paying homage to this exceptional, familiar yet unknown material.

Dentelle de Calais-Caudry®

a trademark registered by the French Federation of Lace and Embroidery, was awarded the 2016 Liliane Bettencourt Prize for Craftsmanship.



Ensemble with skirt in hand-incised mechanical lace. Karl Lagerfeld for Chanel Haute Couture Spring-Summer 2015 Collection © Chanel / photo Karl Lagerfeld

The dozen or so lace houses in the Hauts-de-France region, in which labelled Leavers laces are woven, export this exceptional textile worldwide.

Exceptional pieces

have been selected from fourteen prestigious fashion houses: Alberta Ferretti, Balenciaga, Chanel, Christian Dior, Jean Paul Gaultier, Iris van Herpen, Louis Vuitton, Maison Margiela, Ralph & Russo Schiaparelli, Valentino, Viktor & Rolf, Yiqing Yin, Zuhair Murad.

Exhibition curation
Sylvie Marot, independent curator. The catalogue, *Anne Valérie Hash. Décrayonner*, taking the eponymous title of the exhibition staged at the Museum of Lace and Fashion in 2016, was awarded the 2017 Grand Prix for Fashion Books.

Exhibition catalogue
200-page bilingual publication with 110 illustrations, under the direction of Sylvie Marot. Photos by Robin. Co-edition Museum of Lace and Fashion and Snoeck Editions, € 35.

Practical informations
Cité de la dentelle et de la mode (Museum of Lace and Fashion)
135 quai du Commerce,
62100 Calais
+ 33 (0)3 21 00 42 30
www.cite-dentelle.fr

Press contact
Agence observatoire
www.observatoire.fr
68 rue Pernety,
75014 Paris
+33 (0)6 80 61 04 17
aureliecadot@observatoire.fr

Social networks
#HauteDentelle
#citedentellemode
[@citedentelle](https://www.instagram.com/citedentelle)